



# St Patrick's School NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 3 Term 3  
24th August 2017

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST	
Fri 25th	Diocesan Athletics Carnival Winter Sleepover Yr 6
Sun 27th	1st Communion 10am
Tue 29th	Year Two Assembly 2.15pm
Wed 30th	9.00am Kinder Mass Delany Cup Round 3 Father's Day Stall
Thur 31st	Father's Day Liturgy 10am in Hall 1st Day of Book Fair
Fri 1st	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
Sun 3rd	Father's Day
Mon 4th	2nd Day Book Fair
Tue 5th	Last Day book Fair
Thurs 7th	Year 1 Assembly 2.15pm
Fri 8th	Book Character Parade 8.45

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents



### PARENTING \* IDEAS Not in front of the children!

#### 'I don't have to do that work'

Recently I heard how a thirteen-year-old girl refused point blank to work for a teacher as her mother had said that the teacher's expectations were unreasonable. Miss 13 cited her mother's views when she refused to get to work saying, "My mum says I've got a problem with learning. She says you need to take it easy on me but you don't.. I don't have to do your work!" This type of entrenched view is very difficult for a teacher to encounter without ridiculing the parents and the young person. However stories like this are more common than most people think. They reinforce the notion that parents need to be mindful of what they say in front of their children, whether that be about the child's abilities, their teachers or anyone else. Negative views can easily shut down kids' learning. Some children are quicker than others to latch on to even a skerrick of their parents' negativity as an excuse either not to work or to lower the expectations of others.

#### Sometimes it best to say nothing at all

As adults we have all sorts of opinions that don't necessarily need to be shared with our kids. We may hold strong political views for example, but if young people are to formulate their own opinions then it may wise to curb our opinions when they are around. Similarly, it may be smart to keep mum if our views about religion, sexuality and ethnicity are intolerant or don't follow the mainstream. That's not to say we don't discuss these issues at home. Children and parents in healthy families are able to discuss all manner of issues, with even extreme views tolerated and challenged rather than mindlessly expressed and held as if they are the only possible truth.

Michael Grose

### NEW SCHOOL PHONE/FAX NUMBER

The school has a new phone number. The old phone number will still operate for the next 6 months  
St Patrick's Phone Number: 8728 7300  
St Patrick's Fax Number: 8728 7399

STAFF DEVELOPMENT  
DAY  
FRIDAY 1ST  
SEPTEMBER 2017  
There will be no classes  
held on this day.

WEEKLY VALUE – Being Honest

School Terms	2017	2018
Term 1		Monday, 29 January to Friday, 13 April
Term 2		Monday, 30 April to Friday, 6 July
Term 3	Monday, 17 July to Friday, 22 September	Monday, 23 July to Friday, 28 September
Term 4	Monday, 09 October to Tuesday, 19 December	Monday, 15 October to Friday, 21 December

### **SCHOOL BANKING**

Parents and children, just a reminder that Banking is collected every Tuesday. We have many children who are eligible for prizes. Please send in your tokens with your next deposit to claim your prize.



Parents, if your child/ren have now left St Patrick's and gone to high school, we are happy to do their school banking as well as their siblings. Please send the older children's deposit books with their younger brother or sister.

### **\*\*Easter Public Holidays 2018**

Good Friday 30th March  
Easter Monday 2nd April

### **REMINDER**

When you shop at Woolworth's, don't forget to collect the Earn & Learn Stickers.



The children can then put them in the box in the student foyer. The more you collect, the more prizes you can win for the St Patrick's School.

### **FUNDRAISING**

Last Friday we had a very successful fundraising day for the Leukaemia Foundation and Breast Cancer Research. Thank you to all the wonderful students who organised the different stalls and helped to raise money. I am always so surprised with the generosity of St Patrick's school community. We raised \$957.65



### **TERM 3 GUILFORD LIBRARY**

Every Tuesday 3.30pm to 4.30pm  
After –School Craft  
Every Thursday 3.15pm to 5.00pm  
Homework Help

### **NAPLAN ONLINE READINESS TEST**

The Year 3 and 5 students will be sitting for the NAPLAN Online Readiness Test in Week 8 this term. This Test is to trial the capacity of the NAPLAN website and the school's readiness. The NAPLAN Tests are hoping to go online in 2019. There will be no results made available to the school and parents from this Test.

<https://sites.google.com/parra.catholic.edu.au/2017cednaplanonlinereadiness/information-for-parents>

### **A MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM THE FAMILY OF JULIAN CADMAN**

The Cadman family have expressed their deep thanks to the school communities within the Diocese of Parramatta for their compassion, their prayers and their support during this incredibly challenging time. They are well aware that the healing process will be a very long one but have been comforted by the knowledge that our communities will continue to stand in solidarity with them.

There have been many requests for advice on how people can help in a practical way. A GoFundMe site has been set up by a close family friend to provide long-term financial support to the family. The site can be accessed at <https://www.gofundme.com/the-julian-jom-fund>. Please keep the Cadman family in your prayers.

## FROM THE R/E COORDINATOR

### **THE QUEENSHIP OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

This feast is always celebrated on the 8th day after the feast of the Assumption. Mary was assumed into Heaven by Jesus and the angels. After she was assumed into Heaven, Jesus took His Mother to a throne next to His own. Since he is King and Lord of all, then as His Mother, she was to become Queen.



Jesus, God our Father and the Holy Spirit placed a beautiful crown of twelve stars on her head. All the angels and saints sang wonderful songs praising her as their Queen.

The Blessed Virgin Mary now shares in the glory of her resurrected Son, because she had a part in His work of saving souls. She was His Mother, she carried Him in her womb, gave Him birth, raised Him through childhood and into adulthood and stayed with Him when He was on the Cross.

She is Queen to all of us and obtains all graces for us through her prayers. As our mother and as Jesus' Mother, she will always intercede for us to her Son, and lead us closer to Him.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

Please keep in your prayers the students of our school and parish as they prepare to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus for the first time during August.



### **RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT**



Years 4 and 6 are currently completing the Diocesan Religious Literacy Assessment. Teachers are continually assessing students' learning and reporting to you on their developing religious literacy. In addition to this school-based assessment, and in consultation with the Parramatta Diocesan Schools Board, all Year 4 and Year 6 students in Primary and Year 8 and Year 10 students in Secondary are currently participating in a Diocesan Assessment of their religious literacy. Students in these grades will complete an online assessment during the next few weeks. The students will answer a series of multiple choice questions related to their learning in Religious Education.

In addition, Year 4 students will complete a variety of learning tasks related to the Religious Education unit, Reconciliation: God's Forgiveness and Healing. Their achievement in completing these tasks will be formally assessed.

A report based on students' completion of these assessments will be forwarded to parents during Term 4.

### **MASSES**

Parents and Friends are welcome to attend Mass with the Parish and school this term:

Week 7

Wednesday 30th August



9am Year 6 Mass  
*Ordinary Time 21*

Week 9

Wednesday 13th September  
9am Kinder Mass  
*St John Chrysostom*

### **FEAST DAYS**

22nd August - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

23rd August - St Rose of Lima

24th August - St Bartholomew

25th August - St Louis, St Joseph Calasanz

28th August - St Augustine

29th August - The Passion of St John the Baptist

8th September - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



All-powerful and ever-living God,  
you raised the sinless Virgin Mary, mother of your Son, body and soul to the glory of heaven.  
May we see heaven as our final goal and come to share her glory.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Yours in Christ

Mrs Wardeh Khoury

## **BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS**

Our Book Week celebrations have begun with the children reading a selection of Shortlisted Books that have been chosen by the Children's Book Council of Australia for Book of the Year. The children will cast a vote for their favourite book and those children that vote for the winning book will go into a draw to win a prize from the Book Fair.

## **BOOK FAIR**

The Scholastic Book Fair arrives next week as part of our annual Book Week celebrations. The Library will be open for sales at the following times:

Thursday 31st August to Tuesday 5th September

(please note Book Fair is not open on Friday 1st September as it is a Staff Development Day)

Parents - before school from 8.15am – 8.30am

After school from 2.45pm – 3.30pm

Children can purchase from the Book Fair each lunch time.

## **BOOK CHARACTER PARADE**

Our annual Book Character Parade will be held on Friday 8th September at 8.45am. All Infants classes will take part by dressing up as their favourite book character. Parents are invited to come and watch the parade however children will not be permitted to leave school after the parade as they have other activities organised for them in the afternoon. Primary children will take part in a Trivia Quiz later in the day but are also invited to take part in the parade if they wish.



## **PEER SUPPORT**



### **Session 4 - Make the change**

Our session this week in Stronger Together encouraged students to identify any behaviours or actions they felt were unhealthy in themselves and others. Skill building in identifying behaviours, inclusive practice and developing empathy assist students to transition into making positive decisions to change. This might be an opportunity for parents to remind your child about when they have handled change well and their skills they could use.

### **Session 5 - Know your rights**

Our Peer Support session in week 7 looks closely at the rights of each individual in relation to bullying and harassment. It looks at a range of techniques to support those being bullied and encourages them and the bystanders to take action. Parents could talk with their child about what they would do if it happened to them.

### **Session 6 - Make a choice**

Week 7 also provides for a series of problem solving and decision making activities to analyse how and why we make the choices we do. It considers aspects of safety and a moral sense of purpose about why we should seek to support others and look more deeply into how our decisions can have a bigger impact than we first thought.